

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolation mechanism for a boomed apparatus, wherein the boomed apparatus includes a movable boom and a control assembly comprising substantially electrically conductive control valves located at a general distal end of the boom, the isolation mechanism comprising:

a substantially electrically non-conductive control handle actuatable by a worker to provide a control input; and

a linkage configured for positioning proximate to the distal end of the boom and substantially external to the boom, the linkage operable to couple the control handle with the control assembly so as to communicate the control input therebetween, the linkage further including [[a]] an elongated rod assembly that is substantially electrically non-conductive material, such that ~~the a structural combination of the linkage when positioned~~ [[being]] external to the boom, the linkage provides ~~and including the substantially electrically non-conductive material results in the linkage providing a dielectric gap between the control handle and the movable boom to substantially electrically isolate the control handle from the control assembly and the movable boom to thereby prevent bodily injury to the worker.~~

2-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) An isolation mechanism for a boomed apparatus, wherein the boomed apparatus includes a movable boom having a periphery and a control assembly comprising a substantially electrically conductive control valve assembly carried by the boom at a general distal end of the boom, the isolation mechanism comprising:

a substantially electrically non-conductive control handle having a length, ~~positioned in proximity to a first end of the boom, which is actuatable by a worker to provide a control input; and~~

a substantially electrically non-conductive linkage including a substantially non-conductive material, the linkage coupled with the control handle and configured for coupling with the control valve assembly whereupon the linkage extends beyond a periphery of the boom, wherein a length of the linkage is approximately greater than the length of the control handle positioning proximate to the first end of the boom and substantially external to the boom and operable to couple the control handle with the control assembly so as to communicate the control input therebetween, thereby providing a dielectric gap between the control handle and the boom to substantially electrically isolate the control handle from the control assembly and the boom to thereby prevent bodily injury to the worker.

18-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) An isolation mechanism configured for coupling with a boomed apparatus comprising a movable boom and a control assembly, the isolation mechanism comprising:
means for providing control input to the boom when the isolation mechanism is coupled with the boom; and
means for producing a dielectric gap between the means for providing control input to the boom control handle and the movable boom when the isolation mechanism is coupled with the boom ~~to substantially electrically isolate the control handle from the movable boom to thereby prevent bodily injury to the worker.~~

23. (New) An isolation mechanism for a boomed apparatus, wherein the boomed apparatus includes a movable boom having a periphery and a control assembly comprising a substantially electrically conductive control valve assembly carried by the boom at a general distal end of the boom, the isolation mechanism comprising:

a substantially electrically non-conductive control handle having a length;
an actuating assembly configured for coupling with the control valve assembly, such that a portion of the actuating assembly extends beyond the periphery of the boom when coupled with the valve assembly; and
a substantially electrically non-conductive linkage having a length, a first connection end coupled with the actuating assembly, and a second connection end coupled with the control handle, wherein a combined length of the portion of the actuating assembly extending beyond the periphery of the boom and the length of the linkage is approximately greater than the length of the control handle.

24. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 17, the linkage further comprising at least one elongated link constructed of an electrically nonconductive material.

25. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 24, wherein vertical movement of the control handle induces vertical movement of the elongated link.

26. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 25, whereupon vertical movement of the elongated link, the actuating mechanism is engaged to operably instruct the control valve assembly.

27. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 17, the linkage further comprising an elongated pivoting frame constructed of an electrically nonconductive material.

28. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 27, wherein horizontal movement of the control handle induces rotation of the pivoting frame.

29. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 28, whereupon rotation of the pivoting frame, the actuating mechanism is engaged to operably instruct the control valve assembly.

30. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 23, the linkage further comprising at least one elongated link constructed of an electrically nonconductive material.

31. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 23, the linkage further comprising a pivoting frame constructed of an electrically nonconductive material.

32. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 1, wherein the rod assembly comprises at least one elongated link.

33. (New) The isolation mechanism as set forth in claim 32, wherein the rod assembly further comprises an elongated pivoting frame.